

ONTARIO JUNIOR RANGERS

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Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Lyn McLeod
Minister



Ontario Junior Ranger Program

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Introduction

Next summer is your time to be a Junior Ranger with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources if you are 17 years of age on December 31 and not 18 by July 31 (born between August 1st, 1972 and December 31st, 1973).

If you are the right age, you are invited to apply for summer employment under the program which has had 49,230 students from Ontario secondary schools participating as Junior Rangers in preceding years.

The program offers eight weeks of outdoor work, outdoor learning and outdoor recreation and the chance to meet new friends from communities across the Province.

Junior Rangers usually learn new skills and acquire new impressions of outdoor rewards and pleasures that serve them well on future jobs and future vacations. Following the experience, many of them return for other summer jobs with the Ministry and some have come back on permanent staff.

The program offers you a summer of manual labour that may in itself be repetitive. At the same time, your total experience should be rewarding and will provide a new perspective on your life's vocation.



Work and its goal

Junior Rangers share a common goal with all employees of the Ministry of Natural Resources. This is our goal:

To provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and resource development for the continuous social and economic benefit of the people of Ontario, and to administer, protect and conserve public lands and waters.

Work assignments are the same for male and female Junior Rangers but adjustments are made to fit differing physical limitations. Work may vary from district to district according to local priorities but the following are the most common Junior Ranger jobs.

- Thinning and pruning young stands of timber
- Collecting cones for seed extraction
- Planting tree seedlings
- Cutting, splitting and piling fire wood
- Developing and improving campsites
- Clearing and developing water access points
- Cutting out portages
- Clearing nature and snowmobile trails
- Blazing township survey lines
- Maintaining roads

- Constructing and maintaining buildings, small bridges and boat ramps
- Maintaining parks — collecting garbage, cleaning lavatories and raking beaches
- Maintaining camp facilities and assisting cook.

Training and its goal

Educational activities are planned to help attain the goal of the Junior Ranger Program. This is the goal:

To provide students with working experience and educational instruction to improve their understanding and appreciation of integrated resource management so that they provide useful support to ministry work programs and have opportunities for career progression within the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Lectures and demonstrations are given by professional and technical staff. Field trips are made to local woods operations and other points of interest. Training sessions might be cancelled when forest fire emergencies arise. As far as possible, instruction will be given in the following subjects.

- The Ministry of Natural Resources — its organization and objectives in resource management
- Forest fires — prevention, detection and suppression with emphasis on prevention
- Control of forest pests and tree diseases
- Forest management — timber limits, company operations, management units, silvicultural treatments, scaling, timber cruising, nursery operations and tree identification
- Geology and mining — mineral identification, value of mining industry and historical geology
- Fish and wildlife — identification of species, management of species and habitats, management areas, traplines, fish hatchery operations and law enforcement
- Parks and recreation — planning, management and Provincial Park organization.

Safety training

Junior Rangers are required to observe strict safety precautions during all work and recreational activities. The Ministry's safety officers supervise safety training and safety inspections across the Province. They concentrate on Junior Rangers, especially during the first week of camp.

Lectures and demonstrations are given on safe working conditions, safe working habits and safe use of tools and equipment. These are followed throughout the summer by on-the-spot lessons given by camp staff.

Hard hats, safety goggles and safety boots must always be worn when required for the job.

Strict rules govern swimming and the use of watercraft. A Junior Ranger may not operate a boat or canoe unless adequately instructed in its use, and in the company of an experienced person who is in charge of the craft.

Recreation

On evenings and weekends, recreational activities may vary from camp to camp according to the topography and the individual wishes of Junior Rangers.

Some camps provide baseball, football and volleyball facilities. Other camps may not if they have no areas suitable for playing fields. Inter-camp competitions are arranged when convenient.

When a camp is located on a lake, fishing is possible and boats and canoes may be used on a sharing basis under supervision.

When a camp is not on a lake or suitable stream, transportation is provided to a suitable swimming site where possible.

Naturalists and photographers will be able to view nature in the natural state. Good berry-picking may be available in season.



Mosquitoes and blackflies are prevalent in some areas.

Impromptu musical get-togethers and other group activities vary from camp to camp and from year to year.

Accommodation

Junior Rangers are usually assigned to camps in groups of 24 but camp populations may vary from 20 to 48. Males and females are assigned to separate camps.

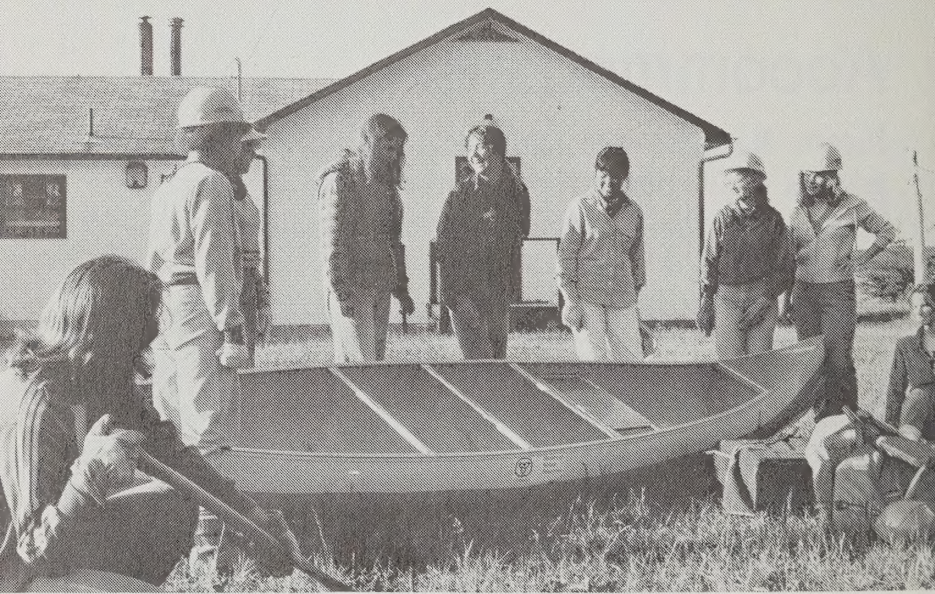
Camps are usually of the cabin type, but they may be mobile trailers. Propane lighting is used where there is no electricity and earth-pit toilets where there is no water system. Most camps are equipped with heating units.

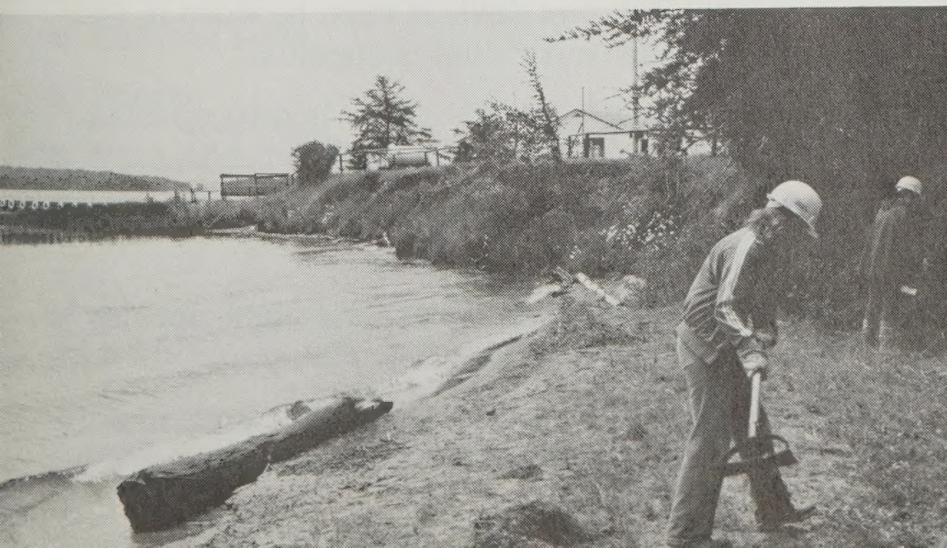
Camps are normally located close to work sites but portable camps are used occasionally when work assignments require movement from one area to another.

All water is tested at prescribed intervals to ensure continued purity for drinking and to conform to regulations of the Ontario Ministry of Health.

Each camp has its cookhouse, supplied, equipped and staffed to serve substantial and nourishing meals.

All camps provide and launder bedding. Cleaning





equipment and materials are made available for personal laundry.

Every camp has at least one staff member on duty at all times so that essential services and safety precautions are maintained.

Transportation to places of worship cannot be promised because of the isolated location of many camps.

Provincial camp rules

1. The camp foreman is in charge of and responsible for the camp and all activities. Failure to obey his instructions may mean immediate dismissal.
2. All accidents, regardless of significance, must be reported immediately to the foreman who will take the necessary action:
 - application of first aid
 - arranging for doctor's services if necessary
 - completion of report for workers' compensation purposes
3. Sleeping quarters must be cleaned and tidied and beds made each morning to the satisfaction of the foreman prior to departure for duty.
4. Junior Rangers are allowed to leave camp only with the camp foreman's permission.
5. Swimming is permitted in designated areas and only when using the buddy system, in groups of not less than four, at least two of whom must be competent swimmers.
6. Personal flotation devices must be worn in all watercraft by individual occupants.
7. Junior Rangers are not permitted to operate ministry vehicles.
8. Junior Rangers are not allowed to have motorized vehicles in camp.
9. Firearms and other weapons will not be allowed in camp.
10. The use of alcoholic beverages and non-medical drugs will not be tolerated.

Additional camp rules may be posted by the district manager responsible for the particular camp.

Violation of camp rules may result in the offender being sent home at any time at the discretion of the foreman or district manager.

Visitors are only allowed at the discretion of the District Manager as they may disrupt camp routine.

Mandatory equipment

Junior Rangers are required to equip themselves with suitable work gloves with leather or leather strip palms (two pair recommended) and CSA approved high-top (8 to 10 inches) work boots with steel-cap toes. If they arrive in camp without this equipment, they will be sent home.

Other safety equipment is supplied on the job.

Recommended gear

Junior Ranger clothing should be light in color (e.g. khaki) and suitable for bush work and after-hours relaxation in both hot and cool weather. The following gear is recommended:

- Four long-sleeve work or sweat shirts
- Four T-Shirts or short-sleeve shirts
- Warm sweater or work jacket
- Three pairs of work pants (jeans or overalls)
- Six pairs of socks for work or casual wear (wool or wool-blend recommended for work)
- Raincoat or poncho
- Bathing suits
- Shorts
- Bath and hand towels
- Personal toilet articles (including suntan lotion)

If rubber boots are also packed, they must have CSA approved safety toe caps.

At their own risk, Junior Rangers may also bring such items as stationery, stamps, books, radios,

musical instruments, sports equipment and fishing gear.

Pay and allowances

Junior Rangers receive free board and lodging and a basic wage of \$15 per day, six days a week. The value of the board and lodging is taxable and subject to deductions for Unemployment Insurance. Vacation pay is included in the \$15 per day rate.

Pay cheques are delivered every two weeks. The first pay cheques will be received in from three to four weeks after the beginning of camp. The final pay cheques will be mailed to home addresses.

Bilingual Camps

Two bilingual camps, one male and one female, will be available for the coming summer. If you are interested please indicate on your application form.

Enrollment

Applications for the position of Junior Ranger will be considered from persons who can answer "Yes" to the following questions.

- Are you receiving secondary school education?
- Will you be 17 years of age by December 31, 1990 but not 18 on July 31, 1990 (born between August 1st, 1972 and December 31st, 1973)?
- Are you in good medical condition?
- Are you a resident of Ontario?
- Are you eligible to work in Canada?

Applications will be received from September to March 31 next. They should be mailed directly to the following address:

Junior Ranger Program
Human Resources Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources
Whitney Block, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3

As the number of applications is usually greater than the number of positions, Junior Rangers are selected on a first-come, first-served basis as the completed applications are received by Human Resources Branch, with some allowances for regional representation. Letters of application and applications on forms other than the Junior Ranger application are not considered.

Notices are mailed to selected applicants by Easter week to inform them of the camp to which they have been assigned, and to explain when and where they should report for duty. The notice includes a health certificate which must be completed by the applicant's physician.

All unsuccessful applicants will be notified at the same time and their names will be placed on a waiting list to fill any vacancies that may occur.

Junior Rangers are met at bus and railway depot by Ministry representatives who will provide transportation from depot to campsite.

Note to Parents, Guardians

The health certificate, which is to be completed by the applicant's physician, must be based on a recent and thorough medical examination and must reveal any serious debility.

In previous years, Junior Rangers, who had to be hospitalized after working for a short time, were found to have physical conditions not reported on their health certificates.

The Ministry of Natural Resources cannot verify all health certificates, but applications are screened by physicians with the Ministry of Health when the certificate suggests the applicant's health has not received adequate consideration. When there is a difference of medical opinion, the ruling of the Ministry of Health will be considered final.

The examining physician is reminded that Junior Rangers must be in good physical condition because their work requires physical exertion. Furthermore, they are often located in an isolated camp remote from hospital facilities.

Persons who are in delicate health or troubled with allergies should not be recommended as they may be exposed occasionally to adverse weather and may sometimes be in contact with pollens, sensitizing plants and other substances, and bees and other stinging insects.

Junior Rangers who need medical attention (in the opinion of the camp foreman), but who refuse to see a physician, will be sent home following consultation with main office and notification to parents or guardians.

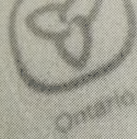
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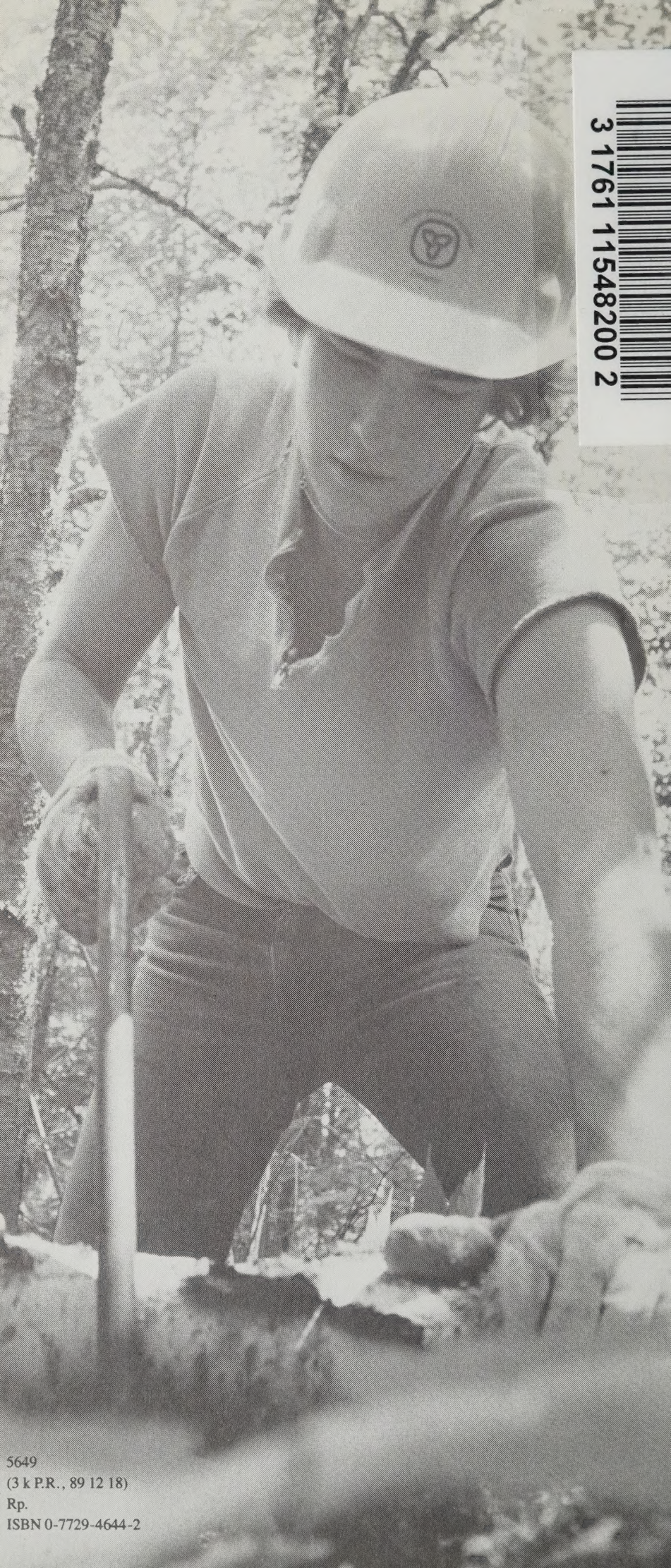
Working as a Junior Ranger does not guarantee seasonal employment in the years that follow. However, it may work out that way because district offices compile a report on the ability and work performance of each Junior Ranger. All reports are kept on file by the district office.

The reports on former Junior Rangers are consulted when they apply for employment in the future or when they request references for outside agencies or business firms.

A limited number of positions are open to students enrolled in academic courses related directly to permanent positions within the Ministry of Natural Resources. These include resource technician, forester, biologist and geographer — positions to be kept in mind by students who like to work outdoors.

1 of every 20 Junior Rangers are hired back as Junior Sub-Foreman based on performance and supervisory ability. In addition, 1 in 6 may be hired back as a Ranger in the 2nd level of the Junior Ranger Program.





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